

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following amended paragraph.

[0017] With reference to Figure 3 it will be observed that the inside 5 of the front face 6 of the thimble is flattened in order to assist in keying the thimble to the finger thereby preventing rotation of the thimble about the finger with consequential loss of control of the needle due to the needle jumping out of one of indents 4. The inside of the rear face may also be flattened to assist this purpose. As also shown in Figure 3 which, as described above, is a transverse cross section through A-A' of the thimble of Figure 1, the thimble wall extends about the full circumference at line A-A'.